

# Doctoral Programme Newsletter



January 2019

Dear GIGA Doctoral Students,

Happy New Year! I hope that you have enjoyed the holiday season.

In this newsletter, two more of our new fellows, Jayane Maia and Jorge Rincón, are introducing themselves and the newly elected student representatives are reporting on the topics that they are working on.

We are currently planning the courses for the summer term programme considering all the suggestions you have made at our last Jour Fixe. If you still have ideas, please let us know.

As you know, the deadline for submitting applications for joining the DP in October is

approaching soon (1 February). Should you know anyone who might be interested in the DP, please spread the word!

Best wishes,  
Maren

P.S. Are you going on a conference trip or research stay? Did you come across an interesting job announcement or summer school? This newsletter lives on your input! Just send an email to [madina.bizhanova@giga-hamburg.de](mailto:madina.bizhanova@giga-hamburg.de).



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## News

### **Michael Strautmann has submitted his dissertation!**

[Michael Strautmann](#) has submitted his thesis on "Harmonization is Dead, Long Live Complementarity: An Explorative Study of Inter-organizational Coordination for Aid Effectiveness in Development Cooperation in Indonesia and Madagascar" to the University of Hamburg in November.

### **Pau Palop García has submitted his dissertation!**

[Pau Palop García](#) has submitted his dissertation on "Institutional Representation of Emigrants in their States of Origin: How much

Presence from Abroad?" to Freie Universität Berlin in December.

### **New student representatives**

At the last doctoral students' general assembly in December three new student representatives have been elected. Congratulations to Clara Franco and Anna Fünfgeld who will continue in their function and to Swantje Schirmer who is joining the team. Many thanks to Tabea Lakemann and Svenja Schöneich for their commitment, efforts and input in the past year – we have enjoyed working with you.

## Who is where?

**Tevin Tafese** will attend the three-day conference titled "[Africa and Europe Moving Forward Together – Evidence-based Solutions for African Development.](#)" It will take place from 24-26th of January 2019 at the Leuphana University of Lüneburg.

In his function as Spokesman of the Junior Research Group of ADLAF, **Tharcisio Leo-**

**ne** is organizing the seminar "The first step towards a PhD: Research approaches in Latin America" that will take place in Marburg between January 24th and 26th, 2019. The target group of the three-day seminar are prospective (Master) students interested in starting a doctorate with a research topic related to Latin American Studies.

## External Courses

### **Qualitative Methods and the Study of Civil War**

The Research School on Peace and Conflict invites applications for the PhD course Qualitative Methods and the Study of Civil War to take place at PRIO in Oslo on 29 April - 3 May 2019. Application deadline is on 29 January 2019. The course will be taught by Jeffrey T. Checkel, Simon Fraser University,

and PRIO Global Fellow. Further information can be found [online](#).

### **MOVING MOOC "Science 2.0 and open research methods"**

The course is addressing young scholars - PhDs, Post-docs and students at an advanced level (graduate students) - from all disciplines that want to learn in collaboration with others about the benefits of Web 2.0

technologies and principles of openness for scientific research and academic practice. Further information can be found [online](#).

### **Fully-funded Research Workshop “EU's Climate and Energy Policy: Perceptions and Challenges”**

The workshop seeks to provide both substantive and ideational accounts for the European Union's engagement in climate and energy politics, focusing on the self-perception of the key climate and energy actors both at the European and the national level. Application deadline is on 25 January 2019. Further information can be found [online](#).

### **Fully-funded Research Workshop “Communicating EU Foreign Policy: The Power of Political Dialogue?”**

The workshop aims to explore the EU's discursive powers and the ways in which political dialogue is mobilized to acquire consent and coin European narratives. Zooming in on

“new realities”, on the one hand, concentrating on specific topics such as EU-Africa relations and development; climate, migration, and, on the other hand, on the role of the EEAS as a communicative actor and dialogical power. Application deadline is on 25 January 2019. Further information can be found [online](#).

### **Venice School of Human Rights**

The Venice School intends to highlight that the respect for human rights is the responsibility of all, that "Human Rights are our responsibility". The aim is to develop knowledge of international human rights law, instruments and mechanisms and how to use these to effect change on the ground. Lecturers include prominent academics, representatives of leading human rights NGOs, Sakharov Prize Laureates and Members of the European Parliament. Application deadline is on 6 March 2019. Further information can be found [online](#).

## **I am currently working on... Jayane Maia**

Hi everyone,

I am Jayane Maia, I am from Brazil, and one of the new doctoral students who started last



year. At GIGA I am affiliated with ILAS and I am part of RP1. I currently hold a Masters in Sociology from the University of Brasília and a Bachelor in Political Science from the same University. Throughout my studies, I worked as a research assistant at the Institute of Ap-

plied Economic Research (IPEA) and also as a consultant at the Secretariat for Human Rights, both in Brazil. During my academic life, I have studied several topics related to elections, political parties, and local politics, particularly in Latin America.

My research proposal focuses on local politics, specifically on the subnational party systems in Brazil and Argentina. I want to verify to what extent the electoral and federalist institutions impact on the institutionalization of the subnational party systems in these countries. As we know, besides the national party systems, federal countries also have patterns of electoral competition between political parties in the local context. Then, my general goal is to analyse the evolution and

the diversity of the subnational party systems in the two mentioned federal countries in South America.

I am still working on my proposal and brushing up the puzzle and the research question.

## I am currently working on... Jorge A. Rincón Barajas

Hi to everyone!

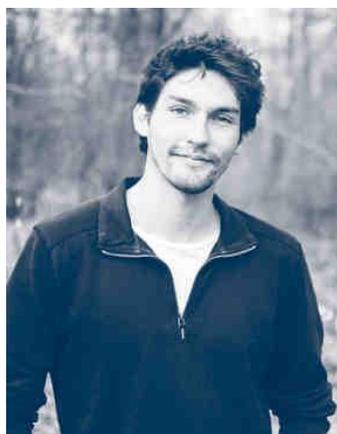
I will make use of this brief space to present myself and shortly describe my background, interests and the goal of my dissertation, which I have just started last October.

I did my Undergraduate in Economics at the University of Los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia, before I completed my master degree in Development Economics at the University of Göttingen. Having my youth in Colombia let me experience how a whole society and State has built on and get used to the presence of a civil war of more than 50 years. This conflict might have several causes, which is a task for historians to discern. Nevertheless, the extremely poor socioeconomic conditions and the remaining (sometimes increasing) land inequality on the rural areas of the country have been relevant factors on the start and development of the conflict. This caught my interest and therefore I have spent my last years to dealing with the understanding of land inequality, rural development, and agricultural economics.

During the last decades, several countries, including Colombia, changed considerably their approach to rural development. From the previous recommendations of multilateral agencies, such as the World Bank and the FAO, advising the strengthening of small-holder agriculture to reduce rural poverty, new theories encourage governments in developing countries to allocate vast extensions of land to agribusiness expecting positive effects on the most needed. For some, these ideas might be absurd in a context of conflict,

If you want to discuss my topic or are wondering if I could help you with yours, I will be glad to talk and help. Otherwise, I am still looking forward to seeing you at any time!

extremely high inequality and poverty; for others, those projects might be a second-best solution for a country like Colombia, where the government has been unable to address such issues for almost a century.



Considering this, the purpose of my dissertation is to recognize quantitatively, through the use of different econometric techniques, whether the most recent and controversial land policies of

such countries in Latin America, South East Asia, Africa, and Eastern Europe, could (or not) help improve the welfare of the populations in the remotest areas of such nations.

During this phase of my dissertation, I am evaluating the best strategies and methodology for the results I want to obtain. Currently, I am working on a first paper that evaluates the effects of land allocation in Colombia and the effects of supplementary policies on them. Simultaneously, I am involved in a project, known as the Land Matrix that monitors land acquisitions with agricultural, touristic or mining interests in the Global South. You have not seen me these last weeks at the GIGA because I am handling the bureaucracy in Colombia to have a first look at my data, while I coincidentally evade the German winter.

Anyhow, if you are interested in this topic, want to improve your Spanish or just have a nice chat, I am the guy usually working with maps and satellite pictures in the office on

the ground floor. I would be more than glad to take a break and share a coffee... or a beer.

## We are currently working on ... your student representatives

We are happy to greet you all, as the recently elected Student Representatives: Anna Fünfgeld, Swantje Schirmer and Clara Franco. We are happy to have been endorsed by you as Representatives, at the General Assembly of doctoral students which took place last December 17. Anna and Clara are having a second term, while Swantje Schirmer was elected for her first term.

Some of the main topics we have been recently discussing, as well as some of the most relevant tasks this new team will be involved with, are:

- **Visibility of PhD Projects and Improvement of Communication:** We are working on several ideas and strategies (some of them possibly institutionalized) to improve the communication and visibility of doctoral projects, as well as interactions with RP heads, Regional Institute directors, and supervisors.
- **New forms of team building:** each of the Research Institutes has come up with different strategies and mechanisms for integration and exchange, some of them bi-weekly, monthly (jour fixe, etc.), bi-monthly or yearly (Annual Retreats for example). We

have been working on a few ideas which will soon be suggested and hopefully tested, to increase team building among doctoral students - such as an informal doctoral gathering every two or three weeks, coffee breaks, etc.

- **Possibilities of advice and support for proofreading and publication of articles and monographs.**
- **We will continue the work on the update and expansion of the GIGA Code of Conduct.**
- **We will soon begin the organization of our yearly Doctoral Students Retreat.** Those of us who have attended the Retreat before, know that it is a great opportunity for conviviality as well as the discussion of issues that interest us all, as doctoral students. It is likely that we will spend the two-day Retreat at the charming "Altes Pfarrhaus" in Blücher, where we have been before - however, on this and every other issue, we are open to your suggestions and very happy to hear comments and ideas!

Looking forward to a fruitful year together,

Anna, Swantje and Clara

## Jobs and Career Opportunities

[University Assistant \(post doc\)  
at the Department of African Studies](#)

University of Vienna

Deadline: 22 January 2019

[Early Career Fellowships](#)

Göttingen Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Science

Deadline: 3 February 2019

[Post-Doctoral Researcher](#)

Department of Conflict and Development Studies, Ghent University  
 Deadline: 20 January 2019

[Lecturer in International Relations](#)

American University of Kurdistan (AUK)  
 Deadline: open until filled

[Research Associate](#)

School of Social & Political Sciences, University of Glasgow  
 Deadline: 4 February 2019

[Research Officer in European Studies, Civil Society and Social Movements](#)

Department of International Development, Conflict and Civil Society Research Unit, London School of Economics and Political Science  
 Deadline: 23 January 2019

[Research Fellow](#)

The Australian National University, Canberra  
 Deadline: 10 February 2019

[Lecturer / Associate Professor in European Institutions, Politics & Policy](#)

University College London  
 Deadline: 10 February 2019

[Project Manager Local Dialogue Processes \(div/f/m\)](#)

Latin America Programme, Berghof Foundation, Berlin  
 Deadline: 24 January 2019

[Research Fellow, part-time \(75%\)](#)

GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Hamburg  
 Deadline: 4 February 2019

## Upcoming Events

30 January 2019	<b>Colloquium:</b> Clarissa Ribeiro and Dominik Giese
13 February 2019	<b>DP Jour Fixe</b>
27 February 2019	<b>Colloquium:</b> Rafael Castro and Christopher Huber